

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 2719

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to collecting and reporting information concerning
3 inmates who have been in the conservatorship of a state agency
4 responsible for providing child protective services and concerning
5 inmate parole, reentry, and integration.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

7 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 501, Government Code, is
8 amended by adding Section 501.023 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 501.023. INFORMATION CONCERNING FOSTER CARE HISTORY.

10 (a) The department, during the diagnostic process, shall assess
11 each inmate with respect to whether the inmate has at any time been
12 in the conservatorship of a state agency responsible for providing
13 child protective services.

14 (b) Not later than December 31 of each year, the department
15 shall submit a report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the
16 speaker of the house of representatives, and each standing
17 committee having primary jurisdiction over the department. The
18 report must summarize statistical information concerning the total
19 number of inmates who have at any time been in the conservatorship
20 of a state agency responsible for providing child protective
21 services.

22 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 501, Government Code, is
23 amended by adding Section 501.103 to read as follows:

24 Sec. 501.103. ANNUAL REPORT. (a) Not later than December 31

1 of each year, the department's reentry and integration division and
2 parole division shall jointly prepare and submit an annual report
3 to:

4 (1) the governor;

5 (2) the lieutenant governor;

6 (3) the speaker of the house of representatives;

7 (4) the standing committees of the house and senate
8 primarily responsible for criminal justice issues and corrections
9 issues; and

10 (5) the reentry task force.

11 (b) The report must include the following information about
12 parole during the year in which the report is submitted:

13 (1) the number of referrals of releasees for
14 employment, housing, medical care, treatment for substance abuse or
15 mental illness, education, or other basic needs;

16 (2) the outcome of each referral;

17 (3) the identified areas in which referrals are not
18 possible due to unavailable resources or providers;

19 (4) community resources available to releasees,
20 including faith-based and volunteer organizations; and

21 (5) parole officer training.

22 (c) The report must include the following information about
23 reentry and reintegration during the year in which the report is
24 submitted:

25 (1) the outcomes of programs and services that are
26 available to releasees based on follow-up inquiries evaluating
27 clients' progress after release;

1 (2) the common reentry barriers identified during
2 releasees' individual assessments, including in areas of
3 employment, housing, medical care, treatment for substance abuse or
4 mental illness, education, or other basic needs;

5 (3) the common reentry benefits and services that
6 reentry coordinators help releasees obtain or apply for;

7 (4) available community resources, including
8 faith-based and volunteer organizations; and

9 (5) reentry coordinator training.

10 (d) The report required by Subsection (a) must be made
11 available to the public.

12 SECTION 3. The reentry and integration division and the
13 parole division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice shall
14 submit the initial report required by Section 501.103, Government
15 Code, as added by this Act, not later than December 31, 2014.

16 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.